



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 481

January Session, 2005

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1039

Senate, April 21, 2005

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO SEEK ACCREDITATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) The Commissioner of
2 Children and Families shall apply, within a reasonable time, for
3 accreditation of the Department of Children and Families by the
4 Council on Accreditation. The commissioner shall comply with all
5 procedural and administrative requirements of said council and after
6 obtaining accreditation shall apply for renewal when such renewal is
7 due.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2005</i> | New section |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|

KID *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

HS

HS *Joint Favorable C/R*

GAE

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | Uncertain Fiscal Years |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Children & Families, Dept. | GF - Cost | See Below |

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Children and Families to apply for accreditation by the Council on Accreditation (COA) within a reasonable amount of time.

A one-time \$675 application fee would be incurred. An additional one-time cost of approximately \$335,000 would be incurred to reflect the payment of a required COA accreditation fee¹. Further costs of up to \$50,000 would be incurred to pay for site visits by COA reviewers. This latter cost would most likely not begin to be incurred until fifteen to seventeen (15 - 17) months from the time of initial application. Further fiscal impacts to the agency would depend upon the outcome of the reviews. Once accreditation is achieved an annual maintenance of accreditation fee of \$300 would be payable to the COA.

It cannot be determined at this time in which fiscal year these costs would be incurred as the bill does not provide guidance regarding what would be considered a reasonable amount of time.

No funding has been included within sHB 6671 (the FY 06-07 Appropriations Act, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee) for this purpose.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1039

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO SEEK ACCREDITATION**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the children and families commissioner to apply to the Council of Accreditation for department accreditation. She must do so within a reasonable time and comply with the council's procedural and administrative requirements. She must file renewal applications when due.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2005

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 12 Nay 0

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 16 Nay 0

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 20 Nay 0

¹ The COA calculates its accreditation fee using a sliding scale based on an organizations' gross annual budget.